naturekenya.org
February '09

# nature net

## Shop at the Museum

Wall Calendars still available!
Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas sale - over 1000 calendars were sold!

Centenary Items for sale:
Tee shirt Ksh. 450/-
Polo shirt Ksh. 800/-
Cap Ksh. 400/-
Wheel cover Ksh. 2000/-
(designs as below)

## Gala night
## Art Auction

You are welcome to donate art items towards this fundraising auction! Many thanks to those members who have already committed their support!

## *100 years for nature*

### *Golf Tournament*

**Friday 6 February**
**12 noon at the Karen Golf Club**

Corporate organisations are teeing it off on this day in a fundraising golf tournament. Come and watch the action with us.

### *100th Anniversary Gala Dinner Party*

**Saturday 28 March**
**7 pm at the Nairobi National Museum, Museum Hill**

Come enjoy a memorable commemoration evening with different speakers, members and toast to 100 years for nature.

Featuring:
Special Guest - **Jonathan Scott** - renowned co-host of the BBC Big Cat Diary and author
Art auction and Nature Kenya **communities exhibit Awards** to our leading contributors and so much more - including entertainment by **Jua Kali Drummers** - a street orchestra using recycled waste materials as musical instruments;
**Caroline Nderitu** - Kenya's leading Poetess; and music by **Code Red**

Only 300 tickets are available, so don't wait to get your ticket. Tickets are available at Nature Kenya offices, Nairobi Museum or call or write and we can have them delivered your office in Nairobi or by registered mail.

Tickets; members **Ksh 2500/-**, **non-members Ksh.3000/-**, **Corporate table for 4 @ Ksh 14,000**

R.S.V.P. Tel: Neema 020 3746090 OR 3749957 or 0725 368254 or
email: office@naturekenya.org
Donations to the Society are welcome.

There will be other opportunities over the coming year to celebrate with us, including the:

- *AGM*
- *Nature Fair*
- *Talks*

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the better option

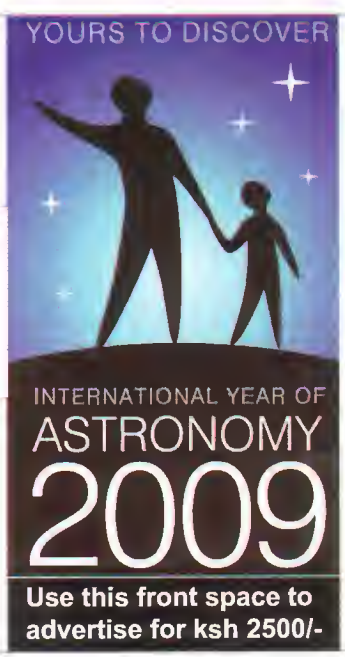
## Renew your membership with M-PESA!

Nature Kenya is now an M-PESA utility partner. Ths means that if you are M-PESA registered you can now pay your Nature Kenya membership using this facility.

Existing M-PESA rules apply when paying bills, including a service charge of 50/-

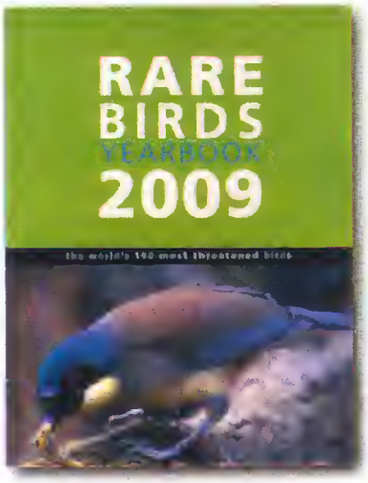
To pay for your membership renewal:

- Ensure you have sufficient funds in your M-PESA account to cover the amount you are paying.
- Select 'Pay Bill' from your M-PESA menu
- Enter the business number 100300
- Enter the account number - in this case your membership number.
- Enter the amount for renewal or donation (maximum - 35,000/-)
- Enter your M-PESA PIN
- Confirm details are correct and press OK
- Your postpaid account will be updated within the hour.
- Send details of subscriptions to us at 0723 693138



# action

**Stay informed and order your copy!**




- Featuring the world's 190 Critically Endangered birds, listed on the latest IUCN Red List www.iucnredlist.org
- Over 130 photos of the world's rarest birds, are new since the last edition.

The brand new features this year cover varied topics such as the reintroduction of the Californian Condor, philosophical conservation issues, the Preventing Extinctions initiative, an exciting encounter with one of the world's rarest birds of prey and much more.

**Special for Nature Kenya members – a discounted rate with convenience!**
Save $ 7.40 by placing your order with Nature Kenya you get the book at £18.95 OR $32.60 (about 2,445/-) including postage.
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## Kenya Wildlife Service PARK ENTRY FEES

as of 1st JANUARY 2009

KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE

Entry to parks requires a Smartcard. Smartcards are free but replacement is Kshs 1000/-. Please note that very soon KWS will be rolling out 'Safari Card', as an upgrade to the Smartcard.

| CATEGORY | Kenya Citizens | Kenya Residents (Kshs) | Non Residents (US$) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Premium Parks – Amboseli, Nakuru** | | | |
| Adults | 300 | 1000 | 60 |
| Children (from 3 to < 18yrs) | 100 | 500 | 30 |
| Students | 100 | 200 | 20 |
| **Wilderness Parks – Aberdare, Tsavo East, Tsavo West, Meru, Chyulu** | | | |
| Adults | 300 | 1000 | 50 |
| Children (from 3 to < 18yrs) | 100 | 500 | 25 |
| Students | 100 | 200 | 15 |
| **Urban Safari – Nairobi National Park** | | | |
| Adults | 300 | 1000 | 40 |
| Students | 100 | 200 | 15 |
| **Mountain Climbing – Mt. Kenya National Park** | | | |
| Adults | 300 | 550 | 55 |
| Children (from 3 to < 18yrs) | 100 | 200 | 20 |
| Students | 100 | 200 | 15 |
| Mountain Porters | 50 | N/A | N/A |
| **Scenic & Special Interest Parks – Hells Gate, Mt Elgon** | | | |
| Adults | 200 | 500 | 25 |
| Children (from 3 to < 18yrs) | 100 | 250 | 10 |
| Students | 100 | 250 | 10 |
| **Scenic & Special Interest Parks –: Marsabit, Oldonyo Sabuk, Mwea, Ruma, Saiwa Swamp, South Turkana, Mt. Longonot, Sibiloi, Central & South Island, Tana Primate, Kakamega, Shimba Hills, Arabuko Sokoke, Ndere Island** | | | |
| Adults | 200 | 500 | 20 |
| Children (from 3 to < 18yrs) | 100 | 250 | 10 |
| Students | 50 | 250 | 10 |
| **Marine Parks – Kisite-Mpunguti** | | | |
| Adults | 200 | 300 | 20 |
| Children (from 3 to < 18yrs) | 100 | 150 | 10 |
| Students | 100 | 150 | 10 |
| **Other Marine Parks – Kiunga, Watamu, Mombasa , Malindi** | | | |
| Adults | 100 | 300 | 15 |
| Children (from 3 to < 18yrs) | 100 | 150 | 10 |
| Students | 50 | 150 | 10 |

**Editorial team**
**Editor**
*Catherine Ngarachu*
**Evening Sky**
*Fleur Ngiweno*
**Communication & Advocacy**
*Serah Munguti*
**Membership Marketing**
*Neema Mbeyu*

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The East Africa Natural History Society
1909 - 2009

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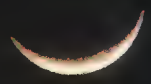
# naturalist



*1st December 08 moon and planets "Smiley" by Brian Finch*

## The Evening Sky February '09

*Ian MacKay and Fleur Ngiweno*

***Moon, February 2009***

An eclipse of the moon on the evening of Februory 9: A lunor eclipse happens when the Eorth posses between the sun ond the full moon, costing its shodow on the moon. Only the outer shodow will be seen; the moon is visible, but its colour is different. Look for the full moon opposite the sunset, right ofter sunset.

Feb 2 - first quorter; moon overheod ot sunset; Feb 9 - full moon; Feb 16 - lost quorter, moon overhead at dawn; Feb 25 - new moon

***Stars and planets, February 2009***

Two brilliont lights dominate the evening sky: the plonet Venus over the sunset in the west, ond the stor Sirius ocross the sky in the southeost. Eoch doy Venus is o little lower.

Sirius is the brightest star that we see ot night. The second brightest star, Canopus, is to the right of Sirius, low in the southern sky. Further southwest is the star Achernar.

Orion, the Hunter or Worrior of Greek myths, trovels ocross the Februory evening sky. Pick out this distinctive constellotion by the three bright stors in o row in the middle. To the oncient Greeks, this wos Orion's belt. His sword - three fointer stors in o row - hongs from his belt. Four bright stors represent Orion's shoulders ond knees. Rigel, blue-green in colour, is one knee, kicking into the sky; ond one shoulder, lowest in the eost, is formed by oronge Betelguese.

To the north of Orion, five bright stors form o giont pentogon. This is the constellotion of Aurigo, the Chorioteer. The brightest of the five is the stor Copello.

The Pleiodes or Seven Sisters - o cluster of stors close together - is high in the north, olmost overheod. Between the Pleiodes ond Orion, look for the reddish stor Aldeboron, the fiery eye of the constellotion of Tourus, the bull. The Hyodes star cluster forms o letter "V", storting from Aldeboron.

***Morning Sky, February 2009***

The plonet Soturn rises during the evening; ot down it is high in the west. West of Soturn is the stor Regulus ond eost of Soturn is the blue-white stor Spico. The oronge stor Arcturus is north of Spico. Jupiter ond Mors rise o little before down; they ore close together in mid-Februory, especiolly on Februory 18. Look for them over the sunrise.

***Comet Lulin***

A new comet, C/2007 N1 or Comet Lulin, will poss by the Eorth in Februory 2009! Comet Lulin possed the sun on Jonuory 14, ond will come neorest to the Eorth on Februory 24. Rother foint now, Comet Lulin moy be bright enough to see with the noked eye (in ruro! oreos, owoy from city lights) in mid-Februory. It is troveling olong the ecliptic - the poth of the moon ond plonets.

Look for o fuzzy, hozy, slightly elongoted point of light in the sky between midnight ond down. On Februory 16 the comet will be north of the blue-white stor Spico (see Morning Sky). On Februory 24 it will be just south-southwest of the plonet Soturn.


## CLASSIFIEDS

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### Plants Galore Garden Centre

A new garden centre has been established in Nairobi!
It is located just north of the Limuru Road on what was Kigwaru Estate. From the Limuru Road take the murram track 200 m beyond the Runda turning and then fork right after the bridge over the river. The Centre is 100 metres on the right.

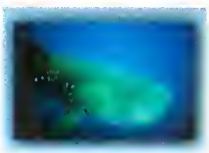
Plants Galore aims to provide well grown, quality plants of unusual species and varieties as well as providing many of the old favorites

In their range will be indigenous trees and plants, succulents and cacti, palms, ferns, bromeliads, cycads, grasses, roses and many varieties of shrubs, climbers (including Bougainvillea) and herbaceous plants.

Also available will be gardening tools, potting mixes, etc., but no chemicals as this garden centre we strictly follow organic methods

Please visit us or direct your enquiries to info@rosesgalore.co.ke or to 020 2446103

### Whale Shark Acoustic Tagging Expedition



20 Feb. - 15 March 2009
Diani Beach
For bookings please contact
Nimu: 0720 293 156
nimu@giantsharks.org

Book at 4447151 or 4441030
info@letsgosafari.com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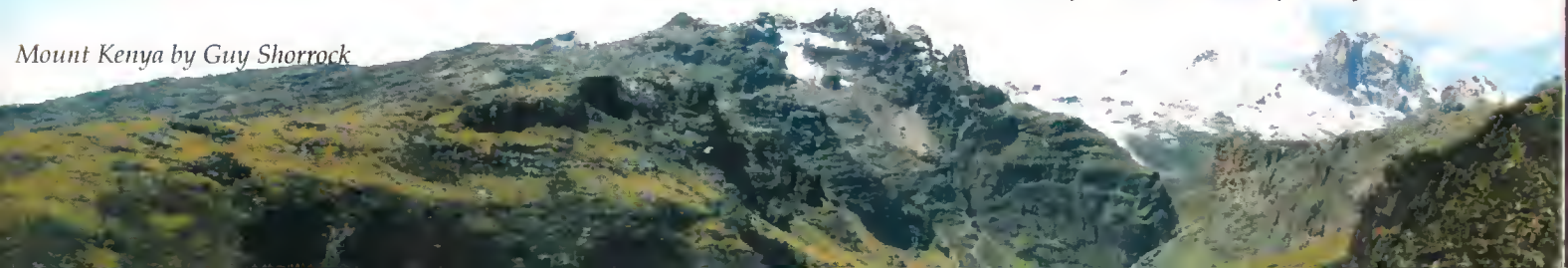
*Mount Kenya by Guy Shorrock*



# in the field

## FEB. AT A GLIMPSE

Wed 4 Wednesday Morning Birdwalk
Sat 8 Tree walk
Sun 15 Sunday Birdwalk
Mon 23 Tree Walk
Bird ringing every Thursday morning (check with Ornithology section, National Museums)

**Wednesday Morning Birdwalks** meet EVERY WEEK at 8:45 am in the Museum staff car park. The entrance is on Kipande Road. **Sunday Birdwatch** (also called "Pot-luck Outings") meet the THIRD Sunday of each month at 9:00 am at the same location. Bring lunch.

Mailing address:

Bird art by Elias Kiama
*saliebirds@yahoo.com*

## Fundamentals of Ornithology

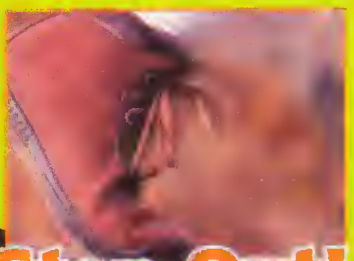
**A certificate course for Bird guides and birders**
**Elsamere Field Studies Centre, Lake Naivasha**
**Thur. 16- Fri. 24 April 2009**

Fees: Citizens 30,000, Nan citizens $ 460 to be paid in full by 1 April 2009.
**Includes**: Eight nights full board, transfers between the caurse site and Naivasha tawn, course materials, transpart on field outings, equipment and tuitian.

Applicants must have birdwatching experience, education up to Form IV level (CV required). Only 20 places available and applicants must fill in an applicatian form and return it with a non - refundable deposit of Ksh.15,000 ar $230

Contact: Caurse Coordinator
Fundamentals af Ornithology
Tel (020) 3749957 /3746090
email farnithalagy@yahaa.ca.uk or membershipservices@naturekenya.org

*Bird Guides at a course*
*Photo by Elly Gathungu*



## Step Out!
## yes you can
### to GATAMAIYU Forest
**Overnight camping**
**Sat. 21 Feb or**
**Day out Sun. 22 Feb**

Lacated abaut 7 kms fram the main road, Gatamaiyu is part af the Kijabe Escarpment Farests, which is hame ta many species af plants, birds and mammals.

Meet at the Nairobi Natianal Museum car park, autside the Lauis Leakey Hall at 3:15 p.m. Leave Nairabi at 3.30 p.m. ta camp avernight at the Fishing camp - on 21st February

KENVO (the Kijabe Environment Volunteers) will be our hast and have arranged meals, guided walks and a visit to the new Kereita KENVO Centre.

On **Sunday 22 February** meet at the Nairobi Natianal Museum car park, outside the Louis Leakey Hall to leave Nairobi at 8 a.m.

- GATAMAIYU FISHING CAMP lacated in the farest, has very basic amenities
- Meals will be simple and local, bring whatever else you need including drinking water
- Bring your camping gear (also available fram KENVO, enquire for rates)

Cast for adults and children:
**Overnight - Ksh 1500, Day trip - 1000/-**
If you are happy to offer rides to others without vehicles please indicate at baaking
**Baak by Wed 18 Feb.**

YES! START MY NATURE KENYA MEMBERSHIP

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